

ADMINISTRATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE
Report to the Standards Committee on April 8, 2002

Recommendations:

Administrative capacity necessary to fully meet the Public Health Standards should be developed and measured. This capacity should be measured separately from the Public Health Standards but used in conjunction with them to fully describe the public health system.

A first draft of suggested measures is attached.

These same measures will be applied to both Local and State Health Departments.

Background: The state law passed in 1995 requires that we set basic standards for public health as a part of the biennial Public Health Improvement Plan. The 1994 and 1996 Public Health Improvement Plans identified the need to address administrative capacities. When the Public Health Standards for Washington were developed and finalized in 2000, a decision was made that administrative capacities would be addressed in the future. The Standards Committee appointed a subcommittee in January of 2002 to make recommendations regarding the form and content of this work.

Definition: Administrative Capacity must be in place to fully meet the Public Health Standards. Effective administration is a critical element of all efforts to improve and promote community health. All of the Public Health Standards assume that effective administrative structures are in place.

Report: The Administrative Subcommittee met twice, January 30 and March 6, 2002 in person and on March 19, 2002 by teleconference. The committee reached consensus on the issues and identified that the process for these measures should parallel the Public Health Standard measures but be separate. The process for using the Administrative measures would be the same as for the Public Health Standards.

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